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# SPOTS and STRIPES

Vol. 8, No. 2



Summer 1971



*"Mohini and Cub" by Ed Bierly, a limited edition print, copies of which are being sold to save Mohini's species from extinction.*

published by **FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ZOO**

NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009 • 232-4555



## SAVE THE TIGER FUND CAMPAIGN

The cover photograph is of a special signed and numbered print edition of an oil painting by Mr. Ed Bierly of Lorton, Virginia, that is being sold as a means of raising funds to support a forthcoming Smithsonian Survey and Study of the Bengal Tiger in India.

The beautiful painting, entitled "Mohini and Cub," is of the Zoo's famous White Tigers, and the print edition is Mr. Bierly's and Dr. Reed's way of allowing these famous animals to do something more for the survival of their species. The autographed and numbered prints are being sold for \$100, \$90.00 of which will be tax deductible as a contribution to the Save the Tiger Fund.

The Smithsonian Study is vitally important because heretofore no information on the actual numbers of tigers, their concentrations, and their breeding viability has been comprehensively documented. An in-depth study by Smithsonian scientists will provide the data, not only to take drastic conservation action but also to put forth feasible and logical recommendations for exactly what action should be taken. It is anticipated that the Study will get underway early next year and will probably take three or four years to complete. The U.S. funds collected through the Save the Tiger print sale will underwrite the salaries of one principal investigator and three or four post-graduate students who will be working under him. Also needed will be dollars to pay for air travel, vehicles, radio monitoring equipment, camping supplies, etc. The Smithsonian does have available a certain amount of Indian rupees which will go into the support of the Study for those services and supplies which can be obtained in the local currency.

Current estimates of the number of Bengal Tigers in the wild are generally given at about 2,000; but this figure, which at best represents a very small number, is extremely misleading in terms of continued reproduction. The reason this is so is that the collective 2,000 are broken up in a great number of isolated pockets, none of which exceed 300, which is generally felt to be the minimum number of animals necessary to provide a sound genetic pool for the viable continuation of a species.

One obvious answer is to reunite populations either by translocation or connecting areas of strict protection in order to allow a free interchange of breeding among a greater number of animals. Many other factors come into play and must be resolved. Habitat destruction is a major concern, as is the

fact that most of the natural prey animals like the Blackbuck, Axis Deer, Nilghai, etc., upon which the tiger feeds, have been shot out by hunters, poachers, and farmers.

For those persons who had already purchased the \$100.00 prints, a special open (LION) house print presentation reception was held at the Zoo on the evening of August 12. Guests had an opportunity to meet Dr. Reed, the artist, Mr. Bierly, and see his original oil, which, along with Mohini and Rewati, dominated the scene.

One of the highlights of the evening was Dr. Reed's presentation of a gift print to the Indian Embassy and its acceptance by Mr. Gangulee, Minister of Culture and Education. This was followed by a drawing of names to decide which of ten \$10 contributing friends would win a group purchased print. And finally and most unusually was the acceptance by the Zoo's Curator of Reptiles, Mr. Jaren Horsley, of a Nile Crocodile from Mrs. Mary Jean Kilby in exchange for a print. The Zoo was anxious to obtain this \$100.00 worth of crocodile as it is an endangered species and can be sent to another zoo/breeding center where it will hopefully reproduce. Those two endangered species were helped at one time, and that is as rare as the animals themselves are.

Needless to say the Smithsonian's study of the Bengal Tiger is a first step towards insuring its survival as a species. The Save the Tiger Fund needs your check (and that of your friends) of \$100.00 (mailed to the Save the Tiger Fund, c/o National Zoological Park, Washington, D.C. 20009), and in return you will have this beautiful print as a reminder of the very important part you played in conserving Mohini's species.

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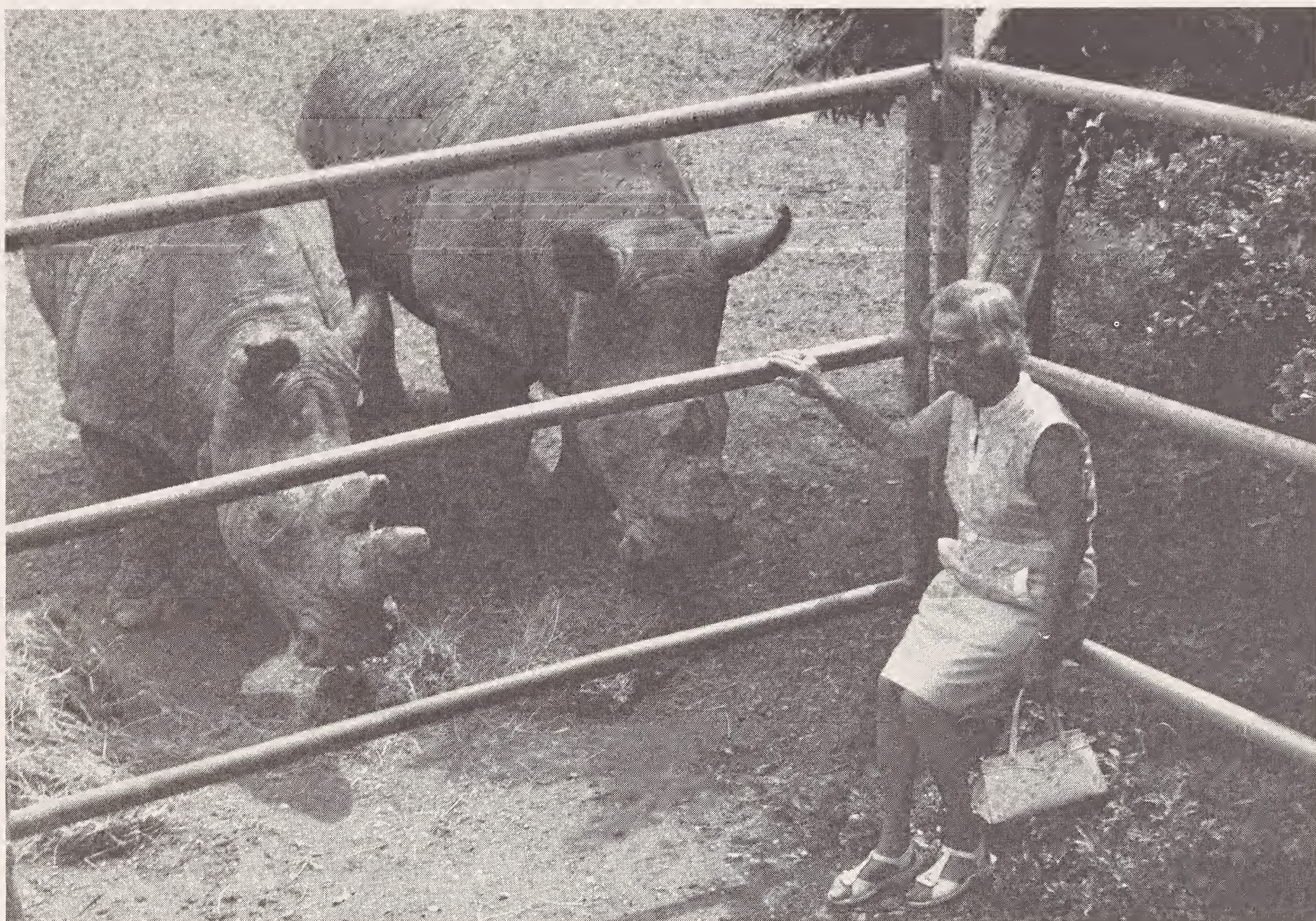
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### LUCY MANN RETIRES

Twenty years ago Lucy Mann (Mrs. William M.) came to the Zoo to give her husband some assistance as a secretary. This was supposed to be for a six week period and only on a part time basis—four hours a day—to aid him in whittling down his pile of correspondence. On June 30, 1971, Lucy unplugged her typewriter for the last time. Nearly 75 years old, she feels she has earned a rest.

We would be the first to agree that she has worked long enough, but, selfishly, we don't know what we are going to do without her in the Administration office. Nearly every day someone asks Lucy about something that happened in the Zoo back in the 30's or 40's, and Lucy has total recall of Zoo activities from 1926, when she and Dr. Mann were married and she became a "zoo wife."

Lucy graduated from the University of Michigan, summa cum laude, with an A.B. degree in 1918. She is also Phi Beta Kappa, and the enviable key dangles from her wrist watch band. The year she graduated from college she came to Washington to work in Military Intelligence, and after the war was over she became Assistant Editor in the Bureau of Entomology, Department of Agriculture.

The lure of the big city and the bright lights caused her to forsake Washington and head for New York. She was first a caption writer for Ewing Galloway's News Service and later Junior Editor for the Woman's Home Companion.

Being married to the Director of the Zoo brought many "fringe benefits" such as world travel. In 1928 they had a tour of European zoos and 1930 they could be found collecting reptiles in Panama, Honduras and Cuba. The next year they headed the NZP Expedition to British Guiana. The following six years they were busy in Washington. In 1937, the National Geographic Society financed an expedition to the East Indies for the purpose of obtaining animals for the Zoo. They were gone ten months and accompanied the shipment of animals back to Washington. One hundred and ninety three crates of animals were loaded on board ship and the collection consisted of 169 species of mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians—a total of 879 individuals.

This should have whetted anyone's travelling and collecting instincts; but in 1938 the Manns were off again, this time for another tour of European zoos (including Moscow and Leningrad).



In 1939 the Manns loaded up a small collection of animals for trading purposes and embarked for the Argentine. That expedition netted the Zoo 316 individuals of 58 species.

The last trip before World War II put a stop to all travel, except of a military nature, was an expedition to Liberia financed by Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. The results of this trip were 195 individuals of 61 species. The last official trip was made in 1948 and consisted of another tour of European zoos.

In between trips Lucy has written, and had published, three books: *From Jungle to Zoo*, *Friendly Animals*, and *Tropical Fish*. She has also found time to write numerous articles for *Nature Magazine*, *National Geographic*, and *Woman's Home Companion*, and everyone is familiar with her output for *Spots and Stripes*.

Dr. Mann retired at the mandatory age in 1956, and in 1960 he died after a lingering illness. Since that time, Lucy has been busy catching up on a few nooks and crannies of this world that she hadn't already seen (and a few that she had) and has traipsed twice to Africa. The first trip included West, South, Central and East Africa, and the second was to East Africa and the Seychelles. She has been twice to the fabled and beautiful country of Nepal, and southeast Asia. There have been numerous trips to the islands in the Caribbean and a long leisurely sail to the Mediterranean countries.

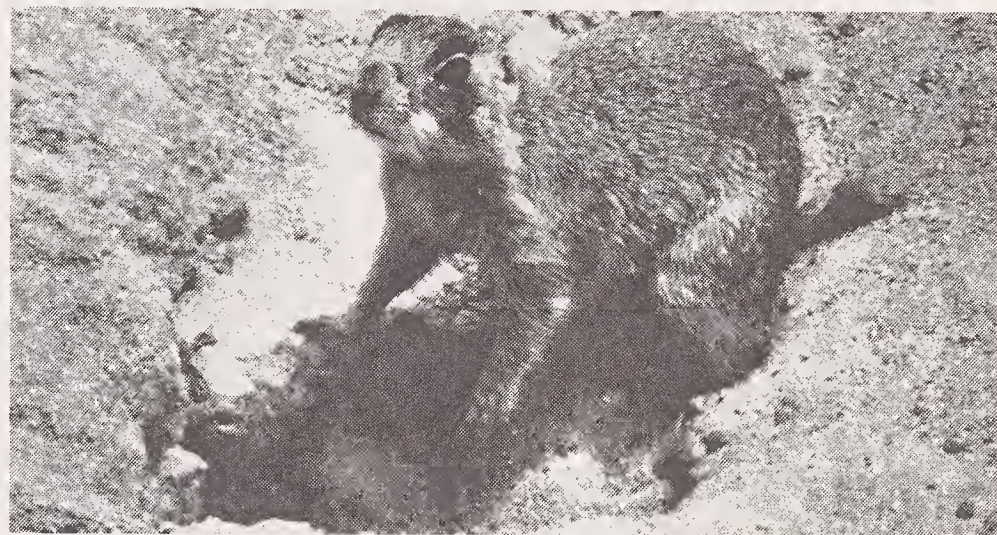
Now that Lucy is a lady of leisure she will have lots of time to plan more trips to odd and exotic places. Wherever she goes she will be actively investigating the flora and fauna; and if snorkeling is indicated for seeing below the water, she will be the first in line for equipment. She can ride a camel or an elephant with the best of us and is undaunted by any obstacle that stands between her and what she has travelled so far to see—whether it's a tiger in the jungle of Nepal, a tortoise on the island of Aldabra, or a warthog in a wallow in Africa.

If you are not already impressed by Lucy Mann, we can also add that she is Past President of the Society of Woman Geographers, Past President of the Eistophos Science Club, a Fellow of the AAZPA, a recipient with Dr. Mann of the Franklin L. Burr Award (given annually by the National Geographic for "contributions to geographic knowledge"), a charter member of FONZ, a charter member of Smithsonian Associates, and Editor of *Spots and Stripes* from Volume 1, Number 1 in 1964 through June 1971. Besides that, she has lectured *twice* before the National Geographic Society.

We are proud of Lucy and her many accomplishments. We wish her well in her retirement, but it is going to be hard to get reconciled to her absence

from the Zoo. We hope that she will find time in her busy schedule to visit the Zoo often, to join us in oohing and aahing over a newborn animal, to follow the Zoo's activities with a maternal pride that comes from having played a stellar role in the growth of the Zoo for so many years.

## NEW PRAIRIE DOGS IN TOWN



One suspects that Mr. Harold Egoscue, the new Curator of Mammals, became lonesome for his home state of Utah, where he did research for the U.S. Air Force these past 19 years; for it wasn't very long after his arrival that two male and four female Utah Prairie Dogs arrived.

Actually their arrival was a bit premature, even by Harold's standards, since he was still in the process of renovating the old Prairie Dog facility. Since the animals had to spend a certain amount of time in quarantine at the Zoo's hospital, nobody was greatly alarmed until one Friday afternoon when one of the females gave birth to a litter of three young. By the end of the weekend all the females had given birth, and the total hospital population of Prairie Dogs had risen to about 20.

Despite having been born under the worst of circumstances, some of the young survived and can now be seen with the adults in the circular enclosure below the Small Mammal Building.

One particular species of Prairie Dog (*Cynomys parvidens*) is the rarest of all; their range has always been restricted to the South-central portion of Utah. Mr. Egoscue hopes that our breeding and scientific observation program on this colony will add considerably to the knowledge of the species and contribute to its protection and more efficient management in the wild.

Zoo visitors that love to watch our social groups of primates will find Prairie Dog watching equally rewarding, for they exhibit a most impressive level of communal organization. Their "bark," which earned them the misnomer of dog (actually they are rodents and closely related to ground squirrels) is one of their communicative means to warn each other of impending danger. These can usually be heard after the animals have assumed their charac-



teristic upright posture as they scan the surrounding area for signs of intrusion.

Man, of course, has been the greatest intruder and destroyer from the early days of the West, when it was felt that these animals competed with cattle for valuable grazing areas. Hundreds of thousands were destroyed by strychnine and other means. Such indiscriminate killing is not only criminal in its threat to the Prairie Dogs but ignorant and disastrous in terms of its effect on the ecological balance of the plains. Since they are the prey of coyotes, foxes, badgers, hawks, and eagles, it is easy to imagine how their disappearance is affecting these animals. The most dramatic example is that of the Black-footed Ferret, a predator in and cohabitor of Prairie Dog towns that is now so rare that the few locations where it is known to survive are considered "top secret" by the Department of Interior.

### YOUNGEST WHITE TIGER CUB DIES

Moni, the male white tiger cub that was born to Mohini and Ramana on March 8, 1970, died suddenly on July 8, 1971.

Moni's short life was never free from problems, beginning with the death of his three littermates 48 hours after birth, at which point he was taken from his mother to be hand-reared in the home of Dr.

and Mrs. Reed. Despite excellent growth and development, Moni was given to tilting his head abnormally and to such a degree that Dr. Reed flew him to the Cornell Veterinary College in Ithaca, N.Y., where he underwent a complete neurological examination, including x-rays and a cerebral spinal tap. No diagnosis was forthcoming, but the lingering suspicion was that the considerable degree of inbreeding—all white tigers having descended from the genetic factor of the original male, Mohan—was resulting in certain hereditary defects.

In the year that followed this examination, Moni distinguished himself as an exceptionally large tiger and at the time of his death was almost as large as his older sister Rewati.

An extensive autopsy was conducted without definite findings, but such things as culturing tissues continue in the hope of discovering clues to the cause of death.

For some time now Dr. Reed has searched for a male tiger to whom he could breed Mohini and thereby avoid the possible genetic complications of inbreeding. Such a tiger, carrying only one fourth of Mohan's genes, has been located in an Indian zoo. Negotiations are now underway to acquire this animal as a mate for Mohini.





## MAKING FRIENDS WITH OUR ZOO RESIDENTS

Meet Nancy, Dzimbo, Shanti, and Ambika, the National Zoo's elephants. Notice the elephants' ears. The Asiatic Elephants have much smaller ears than the African Elephants, and this is a good way to tell them apart.

Dzimbo is the youngest of the four and is about 12 years old. He is a Forest Elephant, which is a smaller type than the African Bush Elephants like Nancy. Dzimbo is about 7 feet, 8 inches tall, and Nancy is over a foot taller. Nancy arrived at the National Zoo in 1956. She was between 2 and 3 years old then and weighed about 700 pounds; now her weight is estimated at over 8000 pounds.

All elephants can swim and enjoy being in the water. Dzimbo loves to make the water spray over his back. They also love dust baths, which help protect their skin from heat and flies.

Shanti and Ambika come from India and are both females. In India and Ceylon, elephants are often trained as work animals. Ambika is now about 19 years old and Shanti about 24. Shanti's name means peace in Hindi.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Elephants are the largest living land animals. They can weigh up to 13,000 pounds and stand up to 13 feet tall at the shoulders. To support their

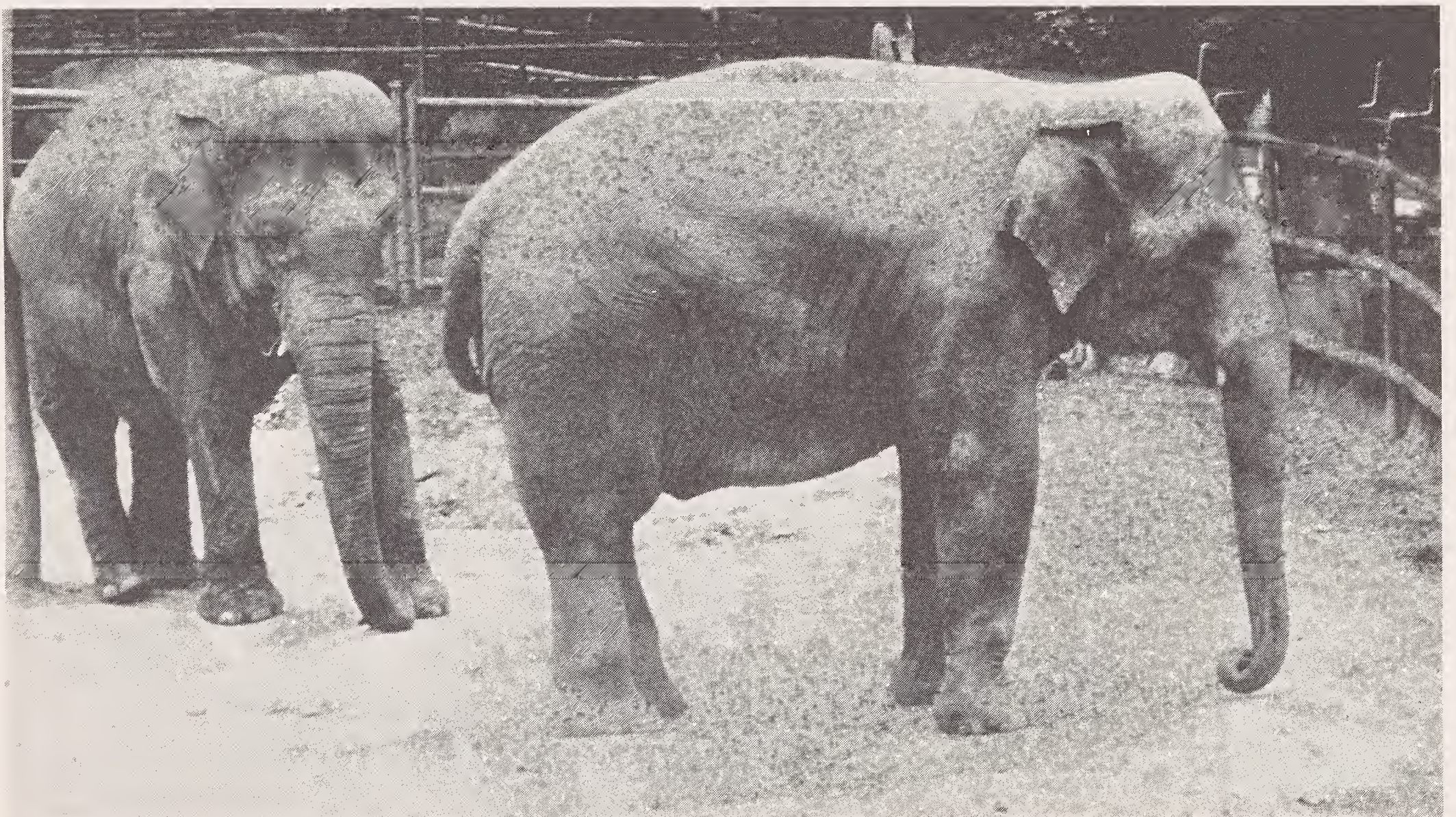
massive bulk the elephants at the National Zoo eat between 150 and 200 pounds of food a day, mainly hay but also special concentrated food. They drink between 30 and 50 gallons of water daily, too.

Elephants' tusks are actually their upper incisor teeth. As a rule female Asiatic Elephants do not have tusks. Unfortunately, elephants with very large tusks have gradually disappeared in the wild because they have been killed by man either for sport or for their ivory tusks.

One of the most fascinating and unique things about an elephant is its trunk, which is its nose. At the tip of the trunk are finger-like growths with which the elephant can pick up small objects. African Elephants have two such growths, one on top and one on the bottom. Asiatic Elephants have only one, at the top. Elephants also use their trunks to blow water or sand over their bodies when they take a bath.

### SOCIAL NOTES

A number of very distinguished visitors witnessed an important and happy event here in June. Rishi and Mara, the lesser pandas, met for the first time. The Indian Government helped the National Zoo find Mara as a mate for Rishi, our lone male. They are together and are usually to be seen in the branches of the tree in their enclosure.





## WHO AM I?

Upon my head I have a crest,  
A crest that's black as ink.  
In fact I'm black from toe to chest  
(Except my bottom's PINK!)

(Celebes Crested Macaque at the  
Monkey House.)

We're a scaly, greenish sight,  
A herpetologist's delight,  
A touchy sort, we fight and climb  
And nod a lot from time to time.

(The iguanas, at present in their outside  
enclosure near the Small Mammal House.)

I carry my parasol with me,  
My claws are curved and strong.  
I'm a perfect delight on a picnic,  
And my tongue is one foot long.

(The Giant Anteater in her summer home  
on the Camel Line. Her 'parasol' is  
her tail with which she covers her head  
and body when she curls up to rest.)

## WORKSHOP PROJECT

### SPATTER PRINTS

This is a good outdoor nature activity. You can use the finished prints for gifts, making a leaf album, personal notepaper, wrapping paper, etc. . .

### EQUIPMENT

Construction paper, toothbrush, poster paint, a stick about 6 inches long. (Optional: a box frame with mesh screen instead of the stick.)



### DIRECTIONS

- 1) Arrange the leaf on the paper with pins.
- 2) Dip the toothbrush into a thin mixture of poster paint.
- 3) Point the brush, bristle side up, toward the leaf, and scrape the bristles away from you with the stick. (Or place the box frame over the leaf and rub the brush over the mesh.)
- 4) Continue rubbing the bristles until you have a thick cluster of paint spots all around the leaf.
- 5) Carefully remove the leaf from the paper and you will have made a perfect silhouette.

### VARIATIONS

- 1) Arrange several leaves on the paper.
- 2) After the first leaf dries, use another leaf and color in an overlay.
- 3) Use cutouts, twigs and other objects instead of a leaf.



## A MEGAPODE MOUND IS BEING BUILT

Outside, behind the Bird House, next to the ostrich yard, an amazing aspect of nesting behavior is taking place in the enclosure of the Zoo's Brush Turkeys, a unique member of a group of birds called "megapodes," or "big-footed."

When Dr. Weeks, Curator of Birds, first noticed the male Brush Turkey scratching sand and debris backwards with his strong feet, he realized that his "mound-builders" wanted to make a nest. Grass cuttings, additional earth and sand were quickly spread on the enclosure floor in hopes that the birds would continue their activity.

Since Brush Turkeys are unique in being the only animals above reptiles on the evolutionary scale that do not use their own bodies to incubate their eggs or young, Dr. Weeks watched with interest as the incubation mound began to grow in size. Brush Turkeys build these mounds some 12" in diameter and 3" high. The heat of the decomposing vegetable matter creates sufficient warmth to incubate the eggs that are laid therein. Regulation of the temperature to an accuracy of 1 or 2 degrees is accomplished by adding or removing layers of matter on the mound after the amount of heat is tested by the Brush Turkey's probing beak. The incubation period is long, and when hatched the chicks must dig their own way up to the surface of the mound.

At this time we don't know if eggs have been deposited in the nest. But even if they haven't, you'll enjoy watching these birds recreate a scene from the forest floor of their native Australian habitat.

## BOWER BIRDS ON DISPLAY

Thanks to the continued NZP loyalties of our former Curator of Birds, Mr. Kerry Muller, a pair of Satin Bower Birds were sent to the Zoo from Kerry's collection at Taronga Park in Sydney, Australia.

These unique animals are now on display in the far enclosure beyond the Scarlet Ibis inside the Bird House. They bear watching, for the male Bower Birds hold a foremost place among avifauna as elaborate architects. The object of these efforts is a "bower" and may vary in one group of species from a tent-like structure with a thatched roof to a walked avenue in another.

The Satin Bower Bird falls into this latter category in which the sides of their bowers are decorated with flowers, buttons, shiny pebbles, and pieces of glass. Color choice also varies from species to species, with the Satin Bower Bird pre-

ferring blue or yellowish-green objects, while the Golden Bower Bird favors white.

The purpose of the bower is for the male's courtship of the female. Inside it, he goes through an intricate dance or display preparatory to breeding. Strangely, all of this construction goes to no further use, since the female then departs alone to build her nest and rear her young.

Should our birds begin such activities, you can look for the development of a foot-wide platform of fine sticks and twigs from which will rise two walls fifteen to eighteen inches high, arching inwards and sometimes closing completely in a graceful overhead vaulted arch.

One thing we hope you don't see was experienced by an aviculturist who found that a number of blue-colored finches who were sharing a cage with a pair of Satin Bower Birds were beginning to disappear. He discovered to his dismay that the male Bower Bird was killing them and using them as decorations for his bower!

## NEW LOOK AT THE REPTILE HOUSE

After fresh coats of paint in both the people and the animal spaces, a great many exhibit changes are in progress that make a return to the Zoo's Reptile House a must.

The emphasis is on natural habitats and can be most dramatically seen in the Blomberg's Toad exhibit, where this huge amphibian rests under an overhanging mud embankment and clusters of bamboo that give one the hot, moist feeling of its native South American tropical home.

In this same respect and along similar lines, the large exhibit that formerly housed the Reticulated Pythons has been transformed into another tropical habitat where soon a number of Green Iguanas will be on display. Mr. Horsley, the Curator of Reptiles, hopes to use this exhibit and the natural behavior of the iguanas to exhibit to the public the many and varied forms of animal communication. In the case of the iguanas, which will set up their own territories within the enclosure, this will consist of head-bobbing signals to one another as they establish their required spacing.

Graphics will highlight this exhibit's message, as does a new set of overhead panels on crocodilians at the far end of the building. Other panels are in the process of completion in front of the large aquatic tanks, and three new museum-type exhibit cases are in position and will soon add another dimension to the building's educational program.

There's a lot happening in the Reptile House, so be sure to keep up with the progress in modern exhibit techniques being made there.



## ENVIRONMENTAL AIDES

During the latter part of the summer a Zoo visitor might have passed the Polar Bears, Tigers, Cheetahs, Galapagos Tortoises, Orangutans, Rhinos or Nene Geese and seen a young person talking to the onlookers about airborne hunting in the Arctic, habitat destruction in India, fur coats of spotted cats, the instability of island-isolated species, the illicit smuggling for the pet trade, the poaching of animals in national parks, and finally what zoos can do for conservation of our wildlife.

One thing they are doing not only at our National Zoo but also at New York City's Bronx Zoo, Philadelphia's Zoo, Detroit's Zoo and the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago is having someone at exhibits of our endangered species to point out to the public how animals are a barometer of the condition of our environment and a dwindling memorial of our ill-treatment of it.

This pilot project was developed by Warren Iliff, Special Assistant to the Director at our Zoo, in his capacity as Chairman of the Education Committee of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums. It is part of an Environmental Protection Agency program entitled Summer Program of Action to Renew the Environment (the guides wear a S.P.A.R.E. armband), and EPA has provided each experimental site with a college intern to administer and train the Environmental Aides. Our intern is Mr. Bob Sears, and he has been working closely with Mr. Iliff and Mrs. Isabelle McDonnell to develop an excellent group of guides.

Our guides number 10 and all are to be freshmen at Georgetown University this fall. They have some biology background and lots of interest as they all are enrolled in pre-medical or nursing programs. They come to us from the D.C. Urban Corps in an HEW program to assist students with part-time work to support their education.

## FONZ NEWS

*Guided Tour Program:* The Guided Tour Program of the Friends of the National Zoo, with the approval of the Director of the National Zoological Park and the board of the Friends of the National Zoo, is now under the direction of the following committee:

Mrs. Sam Lambert, Chairman  
Mrs. William Howser  
Mrs. Gordon McLelland  
Mrs. John Terry  
Mrs. Margaret Walsh

*Fall Training for Volunteer Guides:* We are happy to announce that through the generosity of the

Director and staff of the National Zoo, FONZ will be able to offer a new fall training program for volunteer guides, forming now. It will be held at the National Zoological Park starting October 4th. If you are interested in becoming a guide, it is necessary that you be able to commit yourself for these dates. In making your decision it is likewise well to remember that we expect our guides to give four hours service per week if needed—in other words, two morning tours, 10 a.m. to noon. (This does not apply in the summer months.)

The Guide Program is a major part of the Friends of the National Zoo's educational service to area school children and the general public. Last year alone, our guides took over 17,000 children on tours during the school year. The children range from Kindergarten to Senior High, and we have arranged special tours for physically and mentally handicapped children. The response we receive from both children and teachers attests to the continuing and growing importance of this community-oriented volunteer service.

So, if you enjoy being out of doors—and with children—join our volunteer group and share your love of animals and your concern for the vanishing natural world.

For further information drop by at the FONZ office below the Zoo Restaurant or call 332-9322.

*A Special Gift to FONZ:* All FONZ members will be delighted to hear that an anonymous donor has purchased one of the limited edition prints of "Mohini and Cub" and has presented it as a gift to our organization. It is a gift we will enjoy for years to come and can be seen in the FONZ offices.

*A Special Gift from FONZ:* To the absolute delight of Mr. Bert Barker, Headkeeper, Mr. Tony Olds, Assistant Headkeeper, and all of the Large Carnivores Division staff, some of the FONZ Tour Guides contributed over \$130.00 to purchase a "Mohini and Cub" print that will proudly hang in the Lion House offices. Mr. Barker accepted the print and said that he never doubted for a minute the friendship of the Friends.

*Zoo Night:* Friday, June 11, was a perfect day for a picnic, and a record number of FONZ members came to the Zoo in the evening to enjoy themselves. The highlight of the evening was the appearance of Manis and Bagong, the young orangutans, and the public debut of Partick, the baby tapir. We are most grateful to the Zoo for furnishing such exciting guests. The FONZ trains again ran free of



charge for our members, and free beverages were served. The pleasant music of Leon C. Robinson and The Lords of Rhythm was enjoyed by everyone. If you were unable to attend this year's Zoo Night, be sure to put down June, 1972, as "Zoo Night Month" so you won't miss the fun!

*Art Exhibition and Contest:* FONZ is most grateful to the Director of the Zoo, Dr. Reed, for allowing us to hold the Exhibition in the Zoo buildings during May when it was seen and enjoyed by many. Our special thanks to the following, who judged the contest:

Mr. Peter C. Andrews, President of FONZ  
Dr. Theodore H. Reed, Director of the  
National Zoo

Dr. Joshua C. Taylor, Director of the  
National Collection of Fine Arts

Congratulations to the Special Award winners and those who received Honorable Mentions.

*Junior Guides:* The Junior Guide Program is now in full swing and our group of 26 young FONZ members are busy three days a week leading tours. Mrs. R. Newcomb and Mrs. E. Siddal are the volunteers organizing the summer program, and FONZ is most grateful for all they are doing.

Some of the regular guides are also here working either with tours or with our information booths. Thanks to Dr. Reed and the National Zoo staff, the old shop "kiosk" building has been moved to the Elephant House and is now in use as an information booth. FONZ feels this provides a much needed service to the public in the upper part of the Zoo, helping them find their way around and giving information of any new exhibits in the Zoo. Our information table near the restaurant is also manned.

*Requests for Help:* The office and new shop are both in need of vacuum cleaners, and we also need an electric typewriter—a portable would do—and a refrigerator that works! If anyone has any of these items and would be willing to give them as a tax-deductible gift to FONZ, please let us know.

*Help Needed:* We urgently need weekend assistance on our information booths. The program is expanding to include two more information centers. Contact Mrs. Doris Lahr at the FONZ office: 232-4500.

## BOOKS

*Innocent Killers* — Hugo and Jane van Lawick-Goodall. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. 1970. 222 pp., illus. \$10.00

Feline predators have come, especially recently, to be almost universally admired. Elsa's influence has made lion-lovers of us all; the precarious state of the tigers in India has aroused widespread fear that these beautiful animals may become extinct. It seems high time that someone came to the defense of other predators—wild dogs and even the generally disliked hyena. It is fortunate that this task fell to the lot of such keen observers as Hugo and Jane van Lawick-Goodall, whose work with wild chimpanzees in the Gombe Stream Reserve gained them world-wide recognition. Since then, the husband and wife team have spent four years observing Cape Hunting Dogs, jackals, and hyenas, mostly at Lake Legaja, Lake Eyasi, and in Ngorongoro Crater. The result adds to our scientific knowledge of these animals and their social behavior in the wild. It also succeeds in showing us the playful, affectionate, and sometimes quarrelsome antics of individual families; we get to know them, not as objects of scientific study but as parents and pups. It reads like an adventure story, which, of course, in the best sense, it is.

Stanley Young's *Last of the Loners* (reviewed in Spots & Stripes, Vol. 7, No. 4) depicts the grim and grisly elimination of the great grey wolves from the American West. "The Innocent Killers" should be read as an antidote and in the hope that these animals in Africa stand a better chance of survival than our wolves and coyotes.

Hugo van Lawick is a professional photographer as well as a fine writer, and his illustrations add to the value of this highly recommended book.

*Softbilled Birds* by Clive Roots. Published by Arco Publishing Co. New York, June 1971. 158 pp. Illus. \$5.95.

*Softbilled Birds* is written primarily with the aviculturist in mind. The book does not attempt to give detailed descriptions of the many species, but it stresses the importance of proper diet for nectivorous, frugivorous, omnivorous, insectivorous, and carnivorous softbills. Appendix A lists the composition of some insects (mealworms, blowflies, crickets) as to fat, protein, carbohydrate, calories, and calcium. The author contends that in general softbills in captivity have been fed foods that are too rich for them. Appendix B gives "Proven Diets for Softbills."



The book also contains instructions on building an aviary, and how to construct various types of nests and nest boxes. It should be invaluable to anyone who would maintain these birds in captivity.

There is an index, and the book is illustrated with black-and-white drawings and color photographs.

*Man and Animal in the Zoo* by Heini Hediger. Translated from the German by Gwynne Vevers and Winwood Reade. A Seymour Lawrence Book, published by the Delacorte Press. New York, 1969. 303 pp. Illus. \$11.59.

The latest book by Heini Hediger, author of two popular Dover Press paperbacks, *Wild Animals in Captivity* and *The Psychology and Behavior of Animals in Zoos and Circuses*, concerns itself with a variety of topics relating to zoos. Of interest to the professional for its advice on practical problems and to the general reader for its advice on

practical problems and to the general reader for its inside information on the behavior of both men and animals in the zoo situation, it covers such topics as feeding, zoo architecture, and the effects of constant human presence on animals. Dr. Hediger has been Director of the Zurich Zoo since 1954 and is able to enrich his discussions with innumerable examples drawn from first-hand experience.

Of particular scientific value are his observations on the ways animals come to view the humans with which they come in contact, particularly their keepers. In the wild, man is known primarily as a dangerous enemy, but the author shows evidence that in zoos he is just as likely to be treated as a member of his captive's own species. Thus animals may respond to keepers with species-specific forms of greeting or courtship or even regard them as sexual or territorial rivals. On the many significances zoo animals can have for the men who work with them or observe them, Dr. Hediger is likewise well-informed and often remarks wryly on the vagaries of our own behavior.





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